

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY



MISSION STATEMENT

Gateway Kids Ministry is dedicated to providing environments that help develop the spiritual, physical, and emotional lives of children with special needs, while providing support for their families.

Our Sunday morning services provide care for children with Special Needs age 4 - 17 at both the 9:30 and 11:00am services. The adult leaders and youth volunteers have a huge heart and love for working with our children with special needs. Each volunteer goes through an application process that involves a background check, interview, and classroom training.

SPECIAL BLESSINGS CLASSROOM

- A sensory-friendly, small group classroom to learn about Jesus.
- Modified Bible lessons with hands-on activities.
- Additional volunteers to meet each child's needs individually.
- A safe and secure environment for your child while you attend Sunday morning service or groups.

ELIGIBILITY

In order to provide the best environment where each individual can grow in their faith, every prospective participant must meet the following criteria in order to participate in Special Blessings:

- Be able to interact with volunteers and follow one step directions
- Able to participate in parallel or small group activities with volunteers and peers.
- Does not require specialized and/or medical care
- Must not pose a threat to themselves due to aggressive behavior*. (*The Special Needs Ministry defines aggressive behavior as behavior that is forceful and/or hostile either verbally and/or physically.*)

APPLICATION AND PARTICIPATION PROCESS

1. Parents complete an information form for their child to be in the Special Blessings class. <https://gatewaycommunitychurch.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/359/responses/new>
2. The Special Needs Ministry Coordinator will contact parents and set up a site visit.
3. The child will be assigned a class considering developmental levels, age and or family needs.
4. Communicate weekly via text or email for Sunday Morning attendance to ensure coverage.



INCLUSION

Children with Special Needs who may not require a regular small group setting may participate in Kids Town and Youth programs with accommodations. Please contact our Special Needs Coordinator to discuss your child's individual needs.

COMMUNICATION

Communication is the key to creating a successful environment for your child. We as a church family want to welcome you with open arms and offer you the support you need for your spiritual journey. We are neither a medical facility nor a school, but simply a place where you and your child will feel cared for and loved.

For more information, contact Special Needs Coordinator, Amy Thac.

athac@gateway-community.org

Call or Text: 713.551.4858

The Special Needs Ministry reserves the right to make case-by-case decisions based on a participant's medical, emotional, and behavioral need for care.